



## **Federal Emergency Management Agency**

### **Catherine H. Light: Director, Office of National Security Affairs**

Catherine H. Light was appointed Director of the Office of National Security Affairs by FEMA Director James Lee Witt in June 1998. In that position, Mrs. Light serves as FEMA's primary contact with The White House, National Security Council, and federal departments and agencies for national security related activities. She represents FEMA on White House, Defense, intelligence community, and other inter-agency steering groups regarding federal preparedness issues related to terrorism, special programs, continuity of government, continuity of operations and critical infrastructure protection. Mrs. Light had previously served as the Director of FEMA's Terrorism Coordination Unit before it was realigned along with the Office of National Security Coordination as the Office of National Security Affairs.

Mrs. Light has held various staff and leadership positions within FEMA since the agency's inception in 1979, including serving as Deputy Associate Director for Response in the Response and Recovery Directorate, Director of the Office of National Security Coordination, Chief of Special Programs within the National Preparedness Directorate and Senior Policy Officer in the Office of Operations. Mrs. Light served on the President's Reorganization Task Force, which integrated the missions and functions of five distinct federal organizational units into one agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency. She developed and coordinated mission and functions statements and operational procedures for the newly created agency. Prior to joining FEMA, Mrs. Light worked for the Federal Preparedness Agency.

A native of California who grew up in northern Vermont, Mrs. Light holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Virginia and a Master of Business Administration from The George Washington University.

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